3-18-93

The wearin' of the green: St. Patrick's Day history. See Page 2.

Los Angeles Valley College

Valley Star

Van Nuys, California

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March 18, 1993

Lecture on cults

By EVA R. YELLOZ
Staff Writer

In light of the Branch Davidian's two week hold-out in Waco Texas, Hillel and the Associated Student Union's held a presentation of cult awareness on March 11 in Behavioral Sciences 100.

The lecture, entitled "Avoiding the Cult Trap: A Jewish Perspective From a Former Cult Member" was given by guest speaker Corey Slavin, from the Commission on Cults and Missionaries of the Jewish Federation Council. Professors Alan Lavine and Steven Saltzman, of the Psychology Department, helped with organizing the program.

The lecture hall was filled to capacity with 150 students and faculty who listened to the firsthand experiences of the 29 year-old former member of the Montana-based Church Universal and Triumphant (referred to as C.U.T.) which is led by Elizabeth Clare Prophet and her family.

Slavin, born and raised in the San Fernando Valley, said she was very proud of her Judaism and always knew who she was. She identified the start of her cult interest at a time of her life when she was vulnerable.

The Federation's commission has compiled information that there are 2,500 destructive cults in the United States affecting five million people including members' families and friends. Slavin spoke of how cult recruiters use different "hooks" to attract new members. Specifically, the cult she was involved in was a mix of many religions and beliefs. She said that this aids them in finding a comfort zone in any new members.

The former member of C.U.T. took a step back to the time when

See Cults, Page 3

D'ANDRE FORD / Valley Star

"What are we here for?" 'Education!," replied the crowd that gathered on Tuesday, March 16 in LAVC parking lot B before boarding the buses to lobby legislators in Sacramento about the fee increases and cut classes. LAVC has 60 students on the trip. They were joined by 200 students from other community colleges in the district. The ASU paid for the buses for the trip and arranged for accommodations up in Sacramento. The ASU plans to hold demonstrations and make appointments with legislators to stress the students' point of view. They will return today.

For more on cults call (213) 852-1234 ext. 2815

Center open, Students unaware

By SARY FORNARIS
Staff Writer

The occasion wore no frills, no ribbon cutting, no inspired speeches. It was inauguration day but not many knew. Yet, the crew was ready. So on February 17, the doors of the Students Health Service Center opened, ready to care for the bumps and aches of Los Angeles Valley College students.

To make its opening possible, this term a mandatory "health fee" became effective at LAVC. Most students paid the $7.50 as part of the registration fee, although few knew what exactly the money was going to buy them.

Most people will agree that $7.50 is not a lot of money, but with a rise on the registration cost, this "health fee" was not welcomed by all.

"I was upset with the fee because it was too much with the new credit price coming out of my pocket," says Debbie Frazier, a computer science major.

"I think we should have the choice to pay," says evening student Marilyn Huecas. "In the 70's I wished there was a health plan here," says Bill White, an accounting major. "Now I have insurance (at work). I don't need it here, plus it doesn't cover much, so it would be of no help to me. Yet, we would not pay if it weren't compulsory."

Klyda G. Mahoney, LAVC's health services advisor, says the fee "was a mandate from the District. Every college has to have a health center. We pay a flat fee to Parthenia Medical Group and they provide the staff, medical equipment and supplies."

Willingly or not the majority paid. However, more than eight weeks into the term and nearly a month since the health center's opening, still not everyone at LAVC knows where it is nor what services it offers. Just a few hundreds of those who know, have used the services.

"I was planning to go because I have the flu," says James Pitcher, an economics major, "but I feel better now. I think it's good to have (the clinic)."

"No, I don't know there is a health center," says Maria G. Maya, a word processing student, while she stood about 20 yards from the center's entrance. "I paid when I registered. I was expecting some kind of vaccination for it."

"I questioned the registration clerk about the fee. I was told 'for health'," says Frazier, "I wanted to find out about it, just didn't know who to ask. I had insurance so I was not going to use."

Since then, Frazier says she changed her job and now she has no health coverage. She found out where the center is a few days ago while walking to one of her evening classes.

The percentage of students with and without insurance who have attended the center is 50/50, says Physician Assistant Certified, Carmen Queral. The Health Center is in the Women's Gym building. It operates Mondays through Thursdays 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Fridays.

"It is closed when evening students are here," says photography major, Priya Wong. "It should be opened the same hours as the school."

Dr. Ronald Halbert, board certified preventive medicine physician, assistant director of the preventive medicine research program at UCLA, and attending MD. at LAVC Health Center, says "Parthenia Medical Group, a non profit organization, sponsors this clinic. This is on a trial basis. The hours were chosen almost arbitrarily. But they can be changed. We are trying to develop a relationship with the students. It is a cooperative thing. It is a question of how many people need which services and we would like to provide them."

Dr. Halbert says a survey might be used to identify the students medical needs. Through the faculty's bulletin, Mahoney is asking the instructors' help to disseminate the hours and services of the center. She also says the survey is an idea to be considered.

The center has an admission office where receptionist Dalia Pinedo works, a waiting area and an examination room. Dr. Halbert tends to the students with the help of Querel, and Veronika Quezada, the medical assistant.

As an ambulatory facility, the clinic ministers only to patients with non life-threatening ills (small cuts, mild upper respiratory infections, sprain ligaments, etc.) It also gives referrals for alternative facilities with low cost services for follow up treatments; counseling services for substance abuse, smoking cessation, family planning. As well as pregnancy tests, tuberculosis tests, etc.

Prescriptions from the Health Center can be filled at Oaks Pharmacy, in Sherman Oaks, where students get them at discounted price. Over-the-counter medications can also be obtained there with up to 20 percent discount if student identification is shown.

Student's with suggestions or inquires can visit or telephone the Center. The LAVC Health Center staff is ready to help out.

D'ANDRE FORD / Valley Star

Health Center staff (L to R): Carmen Queral, PAC., Dr. Ronald Halbert M.D.,Veronica Quezada, Medical Assistant, Dalia Pinedo, Receptionist. The staff is ready to serve LAVC.

LAVC 1992 CRIME STATISTICS

The following statistics reflect arrests that have been made on campus:

	1990	1991	1992
Liquor Law Violations	4	1	1
Drug Abuse Violations	1	0	1
Weapons Possession	1	1	2

The following statistics reflect past criminal activity on campus:

	1990	1991	1992
Murder	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0
Robbery	0	1	1
Aggravated Assault	8	13	12
Burglary	7	13	6
Theft From Vehicle	10	7	13
Theft of Vehicle	12	19	23
Burglary from Vehicle	17	37	59

Police Update

The Student Right-To-Know and Campus Security Act of 1990, requires the posting of major crimes occurring on campus, to make students aware of the frequency and type of violations occurring in their particular college and university campus.

According to Captain Karl Traber, of the Los Angeles Valley College Police Department, the increase in criminal activity experienced in 1992 was primarily a reflection of more and better reports filed by the students.

In the past years many students reported stolen vehicles and vehicle breakings incidents directly to LAPD and did not notify LAVC campus police. In the past two years campus police officer encouraged students to report all crimes to campus police first and then forward the information to LAPD for 4 into the city wide computer.

Campus police has a crime location map in the police office, B-59. This map facilitates the concentration of patrols in the areas where a law-breaking pattern is developing.

Students are invited to visit B-59 to view the crime location map and familiarize themselves with the problem areas so that they can exercise extra caution while around them.

EDITORIAL

Forget about the green in Saint Patrick's Day

Yesterday, we celebrated another holiday that has become convoluted with commercials which have demeaned its original purpose.

In one aspect, St. Patrick's day is appropriate for Los Angeles Valley College since green is one of the school colors. A lack of green may have been the reason LAVC was the one place that did not take advantage to promote the coincidence this year.

Saint Patrick established Catholic missions in Ireland and single-handedly drove out the snakes from that island.

The Irish were so grateful to be rid of the beasts, they glorified him by establishing churches and buildings in his name. The Catholics appreciated his work so much they canonized him.

All this happened between 15 and 16 centuries ago. Yet, Saint Patrick's feast day is celebrated by more people than any other saint.

The Irish are to be credited for this. Still beaming about what he did with the snakes, St. Patrick's legend was perpetuated amongst the Irish who were living in cramped quarters in New York and Boston.

His feast day gave them an opportunity to be proud of their Irishness which was not appreciated in other parts of the country.

As the Irish began to melt into the America pot, more people thought it was alright to celebrate the holiday along side of them, thus becoming Irish for the day.

Advertising agencies picked up on the idea of selling Irish and launched a campaign centered around St. Patrick's Day.

The biggest joke is McDonald's, with their Scottish name, sells shamrock shakes during this "holiday" season.

Although other companies pitch their sales to accommodate all the celebrants of St. Patrick's Day, none have been more successful than beer companies.

They have recreated the day to their specifications. It has now become an evening holiday that is celebrated in crowded taverns with the patrons gulping down as much green beer as possible and watching in amazement as the girl next to them begins to look more and more like Kathy Ireland.

Today, some of those who participated in celebrating the holiday probably are wishing there were still snakes in Ireland.

St. Patrick's Day has joined the rest of the holidays that have become exploited commercially and whose intentions now are to make money for businesses rather than spreading love and good cheer.

The only holiday left that has been able to retain its original intent is the Superbowl.

We, at the Valley Star, would like to remind everyone to celebrate the holidays while keeping their true meaning in mind and not get duped by the commercialization of them.

"MY GOD WOMAN! LOOK AT THIS HUMANITY! BUT OUR OBJECTIVE IS CLEAR, WE MUST PRE-VAIL....!"
"UH... REMEMBER, WE CAN'T BE ABSENT FROM SCHOOL TOO LONG...!"
ASU
SHEEAN

LAVC's new $7.50 healthy alternative

By EVA R. YELLOZ
Staff Writer

If someone gave me a choice of spending $7.50 for a movie ticket or a school health insurance policy, I'd undoubtedly choose the latter. At Los Angeles Valley College I wasn't given the choice of a flick or a check-up unless I claimed that my religion forbade me from receiving conventional medical care.

Anyway, my $7.50 is no big deal. But if 10,595 day students each shell out their share, it'll come to $79,462.50 per semester and if LAVC's 6,404 evening students do the same, they'd wind up departing with $48,030.00 each term.

Now, if the money was going to good use I wouldn't be so tiffed. We have a student health center located in the Womens' Gym and not many students are using it, or even know where it's located.

Last week, I parked myself outside the center's reception area for two hours and 45 minutes. During those 165 minutes a mere four people showed up for medical attention.

The three able bodied employees were not as stressed as they would be if they worked in an emergency room. They were calm and unaffected as they answered a few phone calls and did some administrative work and light bookkeeping.

The receptionist told me that during a normal eight hour day they once accommodated 21 patients. Wow!

Still, a physician's assistant, a medical assistant and a receptionist could use a little more action stationed in a community college campus whose population is 17,000.

There's also a full fledged M.D. on Thursdays for four full hours. What's NOT happening here?

The examining room is tiled and immaculate. The reception area and waiting room are virtually typical of a general practitioner's office (except there's no canned music.) Still, students are not standing on line and using their insurance.

True it's only an ambulatory clinic- that means you've somehow got to walk yourself in (hopping is okay too.) Getting rolled in on a gurney is against the rules. But they have sutured a student's laceration after he absent-mindedly walked into a brick wall. That's not bad for $7.50.

Isn't it a pity that in a country where basic health care is so unafforable to many, that a campus health center sits so quietly for 36 hours a week? If students are not going to use the services they paid for, or if they don't know what they bought, maybe it's time they found out.

How about a couple of signs on campus with an arrow to point people to the right direction. You know, like the rectangular ones you see on streets and freeways that have an "H" for hospitals so you know where to go if you need one. Any better ideas?

Let's not waste a fortune here at LAVC. I don't think we can afford to. Let's find a healthy alternative.

Gov. Pete Wilson's old number racket is finally up

By ANDREW SAMUELSON and ROBERT FINKEL
Assoc. Opinion Editor and Staff Writer

If you participated in the California State Jackpot or "Super Lotto" on March 10, (which got a ton of free publicity from local news shows) you might have wondered how people, the same people that vote, could spend over $120 million in a couple of weeks on nothing. At the same time, we have to suffer increased fees and cut classes. This system just doesn't seem fair.

Well, it wouldn't be this way if the "numbers" racket (that's the real name for it, you know) was run correctly and fairly, like it was in the good old days by guys who knew what they were doing.

With Meyer Lanskey and his boss "Lucky" Luciano running things, the odds to win were better and a larger portion of the money came back to the gamblers. Sure the capacity for violence existed if you didn't pay your gambling debts, but you can't expect to play for nothing and get away with it.

Did you know that Luciano, who is credited with almost single-handedly inventing the mafia, often attended public events with the Mayor of New York? It's true. So why are we the victims of this facade of lawfulness that is being perpetrated by the Governor?

He and his right-hand woman, Sharon Stone, the Lotto Queen -this one presumably wears panties - don't pay royalty to the inventors of their numbers racket, don't spread the money around fairly, and despite the free publicity that it gets, it barely seems to be able to run this or any other program profitably.

If Wilson had worked for Luciano, he would have been "replaced" years ago.

If Luciano and Lanskey were running "Super-Lotto" with the television advertising, computers, and thousands of terminals, I bet there would be more than enough money for the winners, the bosses and even the schools.

Gov.-"don't call me lucky"-Wilson sure is no success as a racketeer (which is different from being a mouseketeer). Unfortunately for us, our leaders have adopted the amenities of mobsters, not mice to fund our state government. But they don't even have the decency to do the job as well as they did.

Luciano and Lanskey must be somewhere smiling at all this.

Tag them Valley vandals

By SHARYN CADIA
Staff Writer

You see it everyday-letters, words, and symbols slashed in spray paint across the telephone poles and stop signs that border the Los Angeles Valley College campus.

Graffiti defies anything that gets in its way. Like a cancer growing inside that slowly destroys the body, graffiti destroys the spirit of a community.

Efforts to cover up the graffiti only make it more noticeable. The oddly matched colored patchwork calls attention to the blight. It's like using many small band-aides to cover a large oozing wound. The wound never closes, but becomes larger, and more painful.

I'm beginning to believe that graffiti will prevail. Nothing is sacred-not life and certainly not property.

Vandalize is defined as the means to destroy or damage public or private property maliciously. Graffiti is vandalism, pure and simple.

According to Officer Dave Johnson of the North Hollywood Division of the LAPD, there are four types of "taggers": straight taggers who only "tag", "tag-bangers" who may resort to violent behavior and carry guns, "gang-bangers" who paint graffiti on their turf and graffiti artists who can be any or all of these.

Officer Johnson, who is involved with community service in the LAPD, said that his department has used 1,992 gallons of paint, 5,546 community service man hours, 1,392 police officer man hours and cleaned up 28,548 tags in 1992." That is in the North Hollywood Division only.

What type of punishment is being given to these "taggers", who vandalize my community, one in which I used to be proud? According to Press Secretary of the Los Angeles District Attorney's office, Brad Smith, "Graffiti is a misdemeanor but can be charged as a felony. That is rare and is called a wobbler."

The Los Angeles Penal Code 640.6 states that the fine for graffiti is not to exceed $250 and community service hours are not to exceed 48.

Ron Carpenter, Senior Lead Officer of the Van Nuys Division of LAPD said,"If a tagger is caught today by an officer, his hands are spanked, he's turned over to his parents, and the next day he's back out there laughing. Taggers are never sent to jail. The jails are stuffed full."

Carpenter said that the "tagging crews" compete with each other to see how much graffiti they can cover in a short time and judge each other's work. He has a list of over 100 different tagging groups. He said that graffiti artists call it an "addicting high".

Obviously, this so-called "punishment" is not working. The message is that the San Fernando Valley is a free-for-all for taggers. Do what you want and you won't get caught.

Police need to go after these criminals, enforce the laws, and judges need to give stiffer penalties.

If the vandals are under 18, parents should be made responsible by having them work side by side with their children for 100 hours of community service to clean up graffiti. Maybe then there would be adequate parental supervision and we could stop this endless assault on our community.

Valley Star

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★★★★★ LETTERS ★★★★★ LETTERS ★★★★★ LETTERS ★★

The **Valley Star** is happy to receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers.

The **Star** reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic, religious, sexist, or sexually oriented denigrations.

Letters should be signed and include student's major and ID number. Letters may be presented to the **Valley Star** office, Bungalow 25, by Monday **morning** for the following Thursday.

SHARYN CADIA / Valley Star

Corey Slavin was the guest speaker on "Avoiding the cult trap," A perspective on cults.

CULTS

Continued from Page 1

she graduated from U.C.S.D. in 1985 and began working with a public relations firm. In 1989 she landed a job as a public relations manager for a fine dining restaurant.

She said, "I felt I was too young for the job; that I was underqualified. I felt like I didn't know what I was doing."

She was trying to prove to her parents that she was financially and emotionally independent. "This happened a short time after my grandmother's death. I was very close to her. She could tell me things no one else did."

Slavin said that she began questioning her spirituality and her Jewish identity. That's when she met the "recruiter."

The lecturer said that at a time when she felt low self esteem, a fellow employee at the restaurant she worked for befriended her.

"She seemed to have her act together. She always seemed to say the right things to the right people and she wanted to be my friend," said Slavin.

Slavin said they became fast friends and were inseparable. She soon gave up her old friends and distanced herself from her family. Her new friend was completely accepting of everything Slavin said and did.

Slavin said that cult recruiters are present in colleges and universities and look for people who are in a state of transition, or who are "lost souls."

She explained how cults try to manipulate and indoctrinate new members by "love bombing" which lowers resistance and suspicion. Destructive cults, she warned, "no longer enhance your life but take it over."

She recounted how she had to adhere to, short sleep allotment, a specific dress code and diet changes while she lived on Church Universal and Triumphant's property in Montana for five months in 1989.

Cult members were also asked to "contribute" their dollars to fall out shelters and facility maintenance.

Slavin said she gave $6,500 from her trust fund for a spot in a shelter. She lived on her savings during her stay at the compound in Montana. She said most cult members live on savings or work on the cult compound. "When their money runs out, they're asked to go out and get a job."

During her "Prophecy Period" in 1990, Elizabeth Clare Prophet predicted the end of the world by March 15 of that year. She held 24 hour prayer vigils where she instructed cult members to decree "pray by chanting" for such an occurence. Slavin said when nothing happened Prophet admonished them for not being worthy.

While Slavin worked on the completion of a fall out shelter, she fell ten feet and suffered a hip injury, concussion and broken wrist. She left Montana for Los Angeles to receive medical help and was reunited with her family. She never returned to C.U.T.'s headquarters in Montana.

The former cult member wound down her lecture by advising the audience of help offered by the Jewish Family Service's Exit counseling for current members and their families.

NEWS BRIEFS

Scholarship: The Patrons Association and the Family Charity Fund is offering a scholarship of $400. To qualify you must be currently enrolled at LAVC and must be employed at least 20 hours per week. Call ext. 424 for information.

CSUN Open House: Cal State University Northridge will be holding an open house on Friday March 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the University Student Union. The focus of the open house is to aquaint prospective transfer students with the university. There will be department representatives present, a seminar on transfering, workshops on financial aid, fraternity and sorority representatives and tours of the CSUN housing. For information call 855-2967.

Video Contest: The Christophers, a Christian organization, invites all students to enter their video contest. The theme is, "One person can make a difference." Entries must be five minutes or under in length. To compete, entrants must be currently enrolled college students in good standing. Projects can be created either on film or videotape but must be submitted on VHS or 3/4 inch cassette only. First prize is $3,000, Second is $2,000, Third is $1,000 and the five honerable mention awards are $500 each. Entries are due by June 11. For more information and an entry form call (212) 759-4050.

New Horizons Center: The New Horizons Center at LAVC is offering classes for single parents and returning homemakers beginning on Thursday March 25. The seminar focuses on self-esteem, assertiveness, stress and time management and resources for reentry students. For more information contact Barbara Goldberg at ext. 332.

Asian Cultural Week: Asian Cultural Week is April 26 to 30. The Commissioner of Asian Concerns, Andrew Embuido, needs students to express their talents in the spirit of Asian culture. Please contact him by April 1 at extension 361.

New Library Hours: Thanks to funding from the ASU, the LAVC library will be open three days during Spring Break. The schedule for the break will be Monday March 29, Tuesday March 30 and Wednesday March 31 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Science Lectures: The Earth Science Department is holding a spring lecture series in celebration of its 39th semester. The series runs on Tuesdays on Mar. 23, Apr. 13, Apr. 20, and May 11. They will be held at noon in the Math Science building in 113.

Women's Action Resource: On Wednesday, March 24 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Women's Action Resource will be holding a seminar. It will be held in Monarch Square and will include guest speakers and music.

Chancellor's Hour: Chancellor David Mertes will be broadcasting a show concerning key issues facing the California Community Colleges. The broadcast is on March 25. For information call (916)445-7412.

Canines collect cash for campus

By STEVEN KOSOY
Staff Writer

It was a dog's life on Sunday, March 14 when Los Angeles Valley College was the site of the Burbank Kennel Club's second all-breed dog show and obedience trial.

The Burbank Kennel Club asked permission of LAVC to use the grounds, Publicity and Public Relations representative Shelley Cafferty said.

The Burbank Kennel Club paid all of the expenses for using the facility, Cafferty said.

The overall cost for using LAVC was about $8,000, Burbank Kennel Club secretary Marilyn Maifield said.

Additionally, they donated $2,000 to the school, Cafferty said.

"We realize the college is in tight financial shape," Treasurer Larry Hathaway said. "We would like to give more."

The cash gift to the school was not a set amount, but based on the amount of money that the Burbank Kennel Club raised in fees, Hathaway said.

The show started at 8 a.m. when the first of over 1,600 dogs began showing, Cafferty said.

The dogs first competed in different classes within each breed, Cafferty said. Winners of different classes and categories then competed with each other. "It's a giant elimination...down to one dog at the end of the day," Cafferty said.

The dogs competed for points, Cafferty said. The more points that a dog accumulates, the closer it will be to being considered a Champion.

Winners also received ribbons, and the Best of Show. The final winning owner was also given a one of a kind acrylic portrait of the winning dog, Cafferty said.

Breeder Anne Pellette had been showing her Irish Setter Meadow Run Essence for the last two years. "I like the competition and showing something I've bred," Pellette said. "You don't win a lot."

"Every breed is judged by a standard," Judge Bill Shelton said. The dog that individually best represents the standard wins.

As the contestants for the English Sheep Dog competition began lining up, Shelton commented, "They're here to win."

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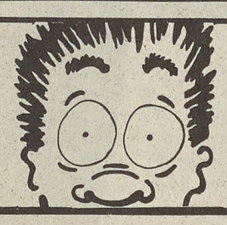

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ANTHONY WAKELIN / Valley Star

Huston Huddleston (Laurel) Rudy Dale Wright (Hardy) act out a scene from the play "Derbys", which premieres tonight at 8 p.m. in the Little Theatre. It is an original production of the Theatre Department.

Musical premieres tonight

By ROBERT MAIZE
Entertainment Editor

"Derbys" has singing, dancing and a six-piece band; pratfalls, slapstick and pies in the face; Mae West and the ghosts of Laurel and Hardy; a skirt-chasing producer, casting couch bimbos and a dog named Mr. Zanuck.

An original production written and directed by current and former members of Los Angeles Valley College Theatre Arts Department, "Derbys" makes its world premiere tonight on the main stage of the Little Theatre.

"Derbys" takes place on the set of a new TV show, which is about Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy being brought back to life, doing their slapstick routines in a modern setting.

But there is trouble on the TV set: the producer is involved in dark intrigues and may be planning to sabotage the show, and the leading players (who happen to be the producer's children) reveal an appalling lack of talent as actors.

Laurel and Hardy really do come back to life and through their magical intervention, the show is saved.

"Derbys" is an affectionate tribute to Hollywood's musical and comedy classics, invoking the legends of Judy Garland, Shirley Temple, the Marx Brothers, Abbott and Costello and others.

LAVC alumni Kerry Zirin, who conceived the story idea and collaborated with Jeff Oxman on the music and lyrics, describes the show as a "throwback" to an older style of entertainment.

"Modern shows tend to have some idea they try to hammer home," says Zirin. "This show is about just having a good time. I don't know who said this, but I like it: 'Laughter keeps the heart young and the soul warm.' That's what I'm trying to convey in "Derbys."'

The humor is from an earlier, simpler age: pratfalls aplenty and a wonderfully outrageous pie throwing scene that is worthy of the original derby boys, Stan and Ollie.

The plot revolves around the TV show's assistant director, Andie Boles, played by Tracy French, and she is a solid lynchpin for the whole performance.

She sings, dances, falls in and out of love and performs a difficult scene where she plays both Laurel and Hardy. Her character has the most depth and scope and French handles the role effortlessly. At one point she sings a serious, sad song about some of the ugly truths in the entertainment industry: "sometimes the business part of show business makes you wonder why you go into it..."

Rudy Dale Wright, another LAVC alumni, plays the ghost of Oliver Hardy. Singing, dancing, falling down and bumping into Laurel, Wright portrays the loveable fat man with an expert mixture of pompous grace and genteel clumsiness. Wright has just finished a soon-to-be released movie, "Line of Fire," starring Clint Eastwood.

The cast and crew of "Derbys" has been rehearsing five nights a week since January, but some of the performers thrive on this kind of schedule.

Duchess Dale, who plays Estelle, the hard-nosed, tough-talking wardrobe mistress with a heavy Bronx accent, says she loves working in this show because it is a musical and it is hard work. "It's like going to a gym and working out. It's hard, but it feels good," she says.

Dale is a theater arts student and works in local theater, TV commercials and will appear in an upcoming episode of the TV series, "Step by Step."

Rich Goteri plays Milt Lawrence, the lecherous producer who spends most of his time in his office "auditioning" young, shapely women. "Just do everything I tell you," he says, as he lifts the aspiring actress on to his desk, " and I'll give you a part in my new show.

Goteri is from New York and has appeared in several off Broadway productions. He says the thing he likes most about doing a play like this is "working with the people, being together five nights a week, sharing this experience."

The producer's wife, played by Deborah Rene Lande, is a wacky caricature of the "show business mother" who forces her talentless children into the spotlight. She marches pretentiously on stage wearing dark glasses and carrying a dog named Mr. Zanuck. When she discovers her son reading a book on accounting, she faints in shocked disbelief.

In an example of art imitating life, the TV director is played by Jeff Croot, who aspires to be a professional director and will direct an upcoming one-act play, "Bible," in April at LAVC.

"Derbys" is directed by Peter Parkin, who also wrote the script. He is an LAVC alumni and is currently teaching in the theater arts department.

"Derbys" will run tonight, Friday and Saturday, and again next week, March 25, 26, and 27. All shows are at 8 p.m. Admission is $7 general, $5 for seniors and students. Thursdays are two-for-one nights.

ANTHONY WAKELIN / Valley Star

Leah and Joe Quinn experience the magic and laughs of the "Derbys."

Women artists' dreams coming true

By NANCY VIGRAN
Editor-in-Chief

Like a work of art, an idea conceived one year ago is becoming the realization of a dream. Through oils and acrylics, wood and steel, the dream will open next Monday night in the Los Angeles Valley College Art Gallery.

LAVC students and Co-Presidents of the Art Gallery Council Allyne Lawson and Barbara Margolies sought to pull together a women's art show to exhibit during Women's History Month. The compilation of work from 11 former LAVC art students reveals expression of deep emotion and creativeness demonstrated in various forms of art.

"We tried to pick out a variety of media and subject matter," Lawson says. Through department instructors, Lawson and Margolies located many former students who had kept in touch with others.

Artists submitted slides of their works with resumes which were reviewed by Lawson, Margolies and art professor Judith Von Euer. "The focus of the showing is on the experience of artistry among women," says Lawson.

"Historically, women haven't shown [their artwork] as much as men," Margolies says, blaming it on a sexist attitude in the art world.

Enhancing the exhibits will be a weekly lecture series also beginning next Monday at 7 p.m., with a panel discussion by the artists. Other lectures will follow on Monday evenings, April 5 - 19, dealing with women in art.

Works include paper collages with a vivid use of color schemes by Gilda Green, mixed media prints and chemically melted materials by Alberta Fins, musical scores intermixed with abstract painting by Lena Rivkin and a booth which you step into for a more involved sensory experience by Terrie Harrow.

A series of vignettes by Merrilyn Duzy represent women in history. Duzy uses fellow women artists as models for her works.

The vignettes begin with the work of Ende, a Gothic nun who painted illuminated manuscripts and end with Frida Kahol, a 20th century painter whose images reflect her Mexican heritage. Women of the Kuna and Navajo nations are also represented in Duzy's works.

Duzy will be speaking Monday, April 5 on "Walking Through History: Women Artists Past and Present."

Candice Ocampo has long worked with nails as a medium. Her scarification screen has a lead base on the back with a copper analyzed aluminum on the front. The nails

Revealing some inner-most feelings in her paintings, artist Betsy Noorzay conveys the experience of breast cancer from discovery to mastectomy. Noorzay says of her series of paintings that "...many are done on raw canvas, to explore raw feelings." Poems and excerpts from her journal writings will accompany her paintings.

Artist Patty Allen-Akesson used acrylic and steel on wood for her piece "Dance to the Music of Life." Measuring 7' high by 14' long, the are hammered spontaneously and then tied together with color applied afterwards. "The back is the chance part of it and I like that the best," says Ocampo.

"I am particularly interested in the use of language as a reflection of our cultural roles," Joyce Wexler-Ballard says. With a Masters in Social Work among other degrees, she incorporates text and visual images in her work.

Olivia Ramirez is a graphic designer who develops pieces of art to be photographed commercially. Her works have appeared in various advertising campaigns and album covers.

"Space Track" is the expression of acrylic on canvas. Painted by Norma Jean Squires, she says of her work, "My approach to these paintings involves what I know and what I don't know, concrete and intangible, figure and abstraction."

These LAVC alumni have exhibited, lectured and taught not only locally in California, but to the east in New York, Florida and Virginia and abroad in Japan, Berlin and Israel. "We hope that people will be inspired by the exhibit," Lawson says. "We want others to learn how these artists got to what they are doing," she says.

Concerts:

Thursday, March 18
LAVC Studio Jazz Band
Woody James, Director
Music Room 112, 11 a.m.

Monday, March 22
LAVC Wind Ensemble
Irvin Pope, Conductor
Monarch Hall, 8 p.m.

Thursday, March 25
Patricia Hannifan, organ
Music Recital Hall, 11 a.m.

Thursday, April 8
USC Chamber Singers
Wiliiam Denning, Conductor
Music Recital Hall, 11 a.m.

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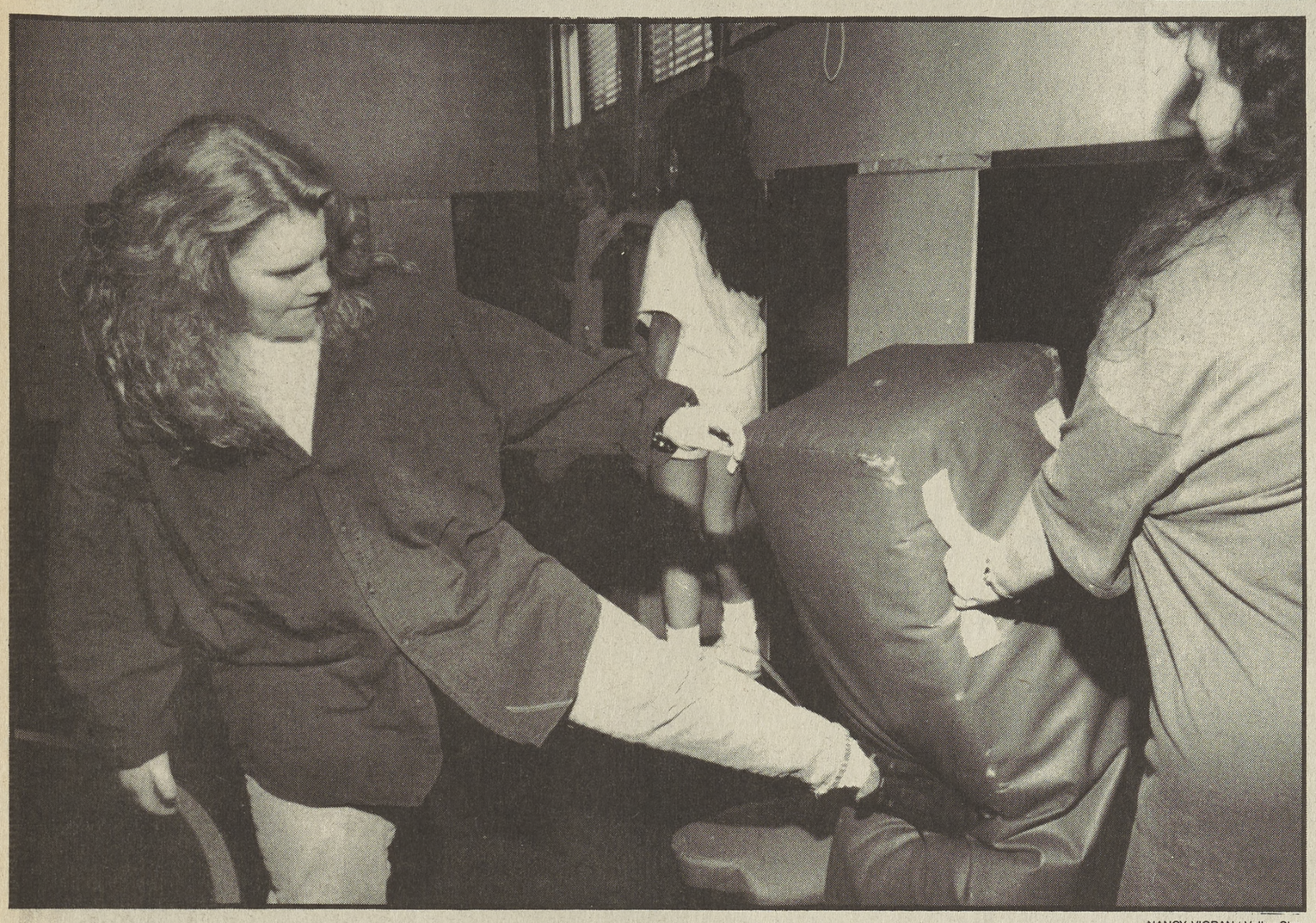


NANCY VIGRAN / Valley Star

LAVC student Jill Lux practices her self defense skills by kicking a pad during Physical Education 238. The pad, simulates an attacker.

'Self Defense' wards fear

By JOSE I. LEMUS
Staff Writer

She walks in fear as she passes behind concrete walls and through the shadows of trees and bushes. She hurries, nervous as a deer in hunting season. She is always in danger.

She is the student who goes to Los Angeles Valley College and parks half a mile away from the classroom, the woman who goes to the supermarket, to the laundromat, the one who takes the bus on the corner, she is always at risk.

Television and radio, newspaper and other media reports on violence against women today portray a dangerous atmosphere in this society and LAVC female students are not safe from it.

"I think it's a good idea for women to have some knowledge of how to defend themselves against something that might happen."

—Annette Olsen

The fear is understandable. Cases of rape at the work place, in government agencies, in taxi cabs, on college campuses— in places seemingly safe— are all in the news today.

LAVC Student Annette Olsen doesn't really feel that she is at risk. "But you never know," she says. "I think it's a good idea for women to have some sort of knowledge of how to defend themselves against something that might happen."

Olsen is talking about the knowledge she is acquiring from Physical Education 238 (PE 238) which teaches women self-defense skills. Although she has never had to try her skills, Olsen feels comfortable with the technique she is learning.

She is confident with herself, but she feels "kind of funny" walking by herself in some places. "Now at least I have something I can try," she says. "Before I probably would have started running first, and you are not supposed to do that."

PE 238 teaches a fast combination of kicks targeting the rapist's vulnerable parts. Women taking the class are taught to be effective.

However, the class instructor, Associate Professor Bernie Christian says," PE 238 is not merely a physical self-defense class. It is more geared for awareness."

The course outline lists strategies for recognizing, avoiding and eliminating danger and emphasizes a "fight only when you have to" philosophy. Students learn about the existing danger and from that point develop protective measurements.

"The first couple of weeks I get them real paranoid," Christian says, "because a lot of them walk around with the idea that during daylight nothing will ever happen to them." He provides the class with stories and videotapes on rape cases and other forms of violence against women.

"It's not the criminal who is on trial, it's the victim who is on trial. This is the typical scenario of the raped woman."

—Christian Smith

"You never know," student Christian Smith says. "A rapist isn't a bum walking down the street. He could be a guy with money, in a suit. So, you can never be too careful."

(They have seen a video in a previous class that shows a business executive to be a rapist.)

Smith talks about a personal experience in which two guys threatened to lock her in a bathroom at a party. Luckily they were just playing macho and she managed to get away. But she says, "It is people like that who made me want to take this class."

She disagrees with the way rape cases are handled in courts. Questions such as: Have you had an abortion, have you had sex, how many boyfriends have you had, show the lack of sensitivity toward raped women, Smith says. In these cases, "It's not the criminal who is on trial, it's the victim who is on trial. This is the typical scenario of the raped woman."

"No wonder a lot of women never tell anyone that they've been raped, because they don't want to go through that," Smith says.

Medical research indicates that raped women suffer from physical as well as emotional traumas after the attack. The most significant are the long lasting emotional problems.

Smith calls for more protection for women. Once she was afraid of the darkness at LAVC and she asked campus police for help. But "they were not very eager to walk me out. They said 'we usually don't do that.'"

However, Smith says she was not aware of the campus police night watch program. The night watch program is run by students of Administration of Justice 87, the AJ club, and student workers within the campus police.

Tisha Greenwood is taking PE 238 "to be prepared. If I am ever in a situation I like to know how to handle myself," she says. What the class teaches "is important for everybody to know," she says, lowering her voice for emphasis, "especially us women."

"This program is a step in the right direction, because it is important being aware," Greenwood says. It is not just physical preparedness but mental as well. "Women are not safe even in school, especially during night classes walking to your class and to the parking lots."

Jill Lux is taking the class because "unfortunately, society today warrants some kind of protection that women need to take upon themselves. You have to have something to be able to protect your self, and that is basically why I am taking this class," she says.

Lux "just wants to be prepared," and she plans to take a mace class in the near future. She also plans to go into law enforcement.

"Unfortunately, society today warrents some kind of protection that women need to take upon themselves."

—Jill Lux

The "Statistical Abstract of the United States 1992" shows that 23,400 cases of forcible rape were reported in the country in 1990. These numbers, some researchers speculate, are not a reflection of the actual figures. It is estimated that only one out six women raped reports the incident in the US, which is considered the country with the highest rate of reported rape in the Western world.

"I have had a lot of frightening experiences and I want to be able to defend myself," says Melissa DeVore, explaining why she is taking PE 238. A football player in high school once told her that he deserved her because he was a player, she says. "He tried to force me. With this class I feel a lot better. I feel that now I know what to do. It gives me self confidence."

Cross culture at the cross roads

By STEVE KOSOY
Staff Writer

Having recognized the serious problems of racial conflict that face today's society, Los Angeles Valley College student Rayvone Douthard began forming the Cross Cultures Club in the Fall '92 semester. However, since that time the club has not been able to build up either membership or activities.

Douthard said that he does not know why people have not joined or become active. The club has 20 people on the roster as members, but only four people show up at the meetings.

Last semester Douthard relied on fliers around campus to advertise the club. He has used the same advertising technique this semester, along with word of mouth.

Building up membership is Douthard's first priority for the club. He said that the club will get stronger when, "a lot more people join in."

Once the club's membership is sufficient, Douthard said that he wants to use the club to, "tie all cultures together to do all different things together."

Douthard said that he wants to advertise the club's philosophy that although many cultures face interracial conflict, "All cultures should get along."

Douthard also plans to interact with the other clubs on campus to help, "spread the word," he said.

A goal of the Cross Culture Club is to travel to different countries with different races. Douthard said that the club has no money and would have to rely heavily on fund raising.

Although the fledgling club has high ambitions, the Cross Cultures Club still does not have a regular meeting time or regular room to meet in.

Even though Douthard says that the club was formed last semester, Senate President Ben Padua said that the Cross Cultures Club is still in the process of forming. Padua said they are, "not a chartered club."

As Senate President, Padua is responsible for overseeing club activities and acting as a liaison between the clubs and the Senate.

Padua said the Cross Cultures Club lacks a constitution which is necessary for a club to be chartered.

"I told them [Douthard] once a constitution is ready we can get that to the Senate, then get chartered," Padua said, "but they haven't gotten back to me yet."

Padua said that part of Douthard's problem was that he had not found people to help him draft a constitution. Also, being Associated Students Union Vice President, Padua can not help them draft it, he said.

Anybody interested in the Cross Cultures Club should contact Douthard in the ASU office in Monarch Hall.

Community service offered abroad

By BILL McBRIDE
Staff Writer

In the coming months, the world may call upon Los Angeles Valley College students to serve as well as learn.

Global Volunteers, founded in 1984, is a nonprofit corporation that sends teams of 10 to 12 people all over the world to developing communities. The teams spend one to three weeks living and working with local people on community projects in one of 10 countries.

"The pictures and statistics that one reads and sees concerning other countries become more real after you've had direct contact," said Joe Foss, a student at Northland College.

Volunteers do not need to be specialists or even speak the language of the host community. They need only to be in good health and to be capable of working with a team. Volunteers come from all professions and backgrounds and vary in age from 12 to 80.

Recently, Global Volunteers has been offering discounts to students. The cost of a trip is anywhere from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars depending on the aircrew and location. Trips organized by schools are often paid in part or whole by fund raisers or allotted money in the school budget.

The projects that Global Volunteers work on are selected by the host communities and vary from place to place. Team members serve villages with a variety of skills ranging from tutoring small children to small business development.

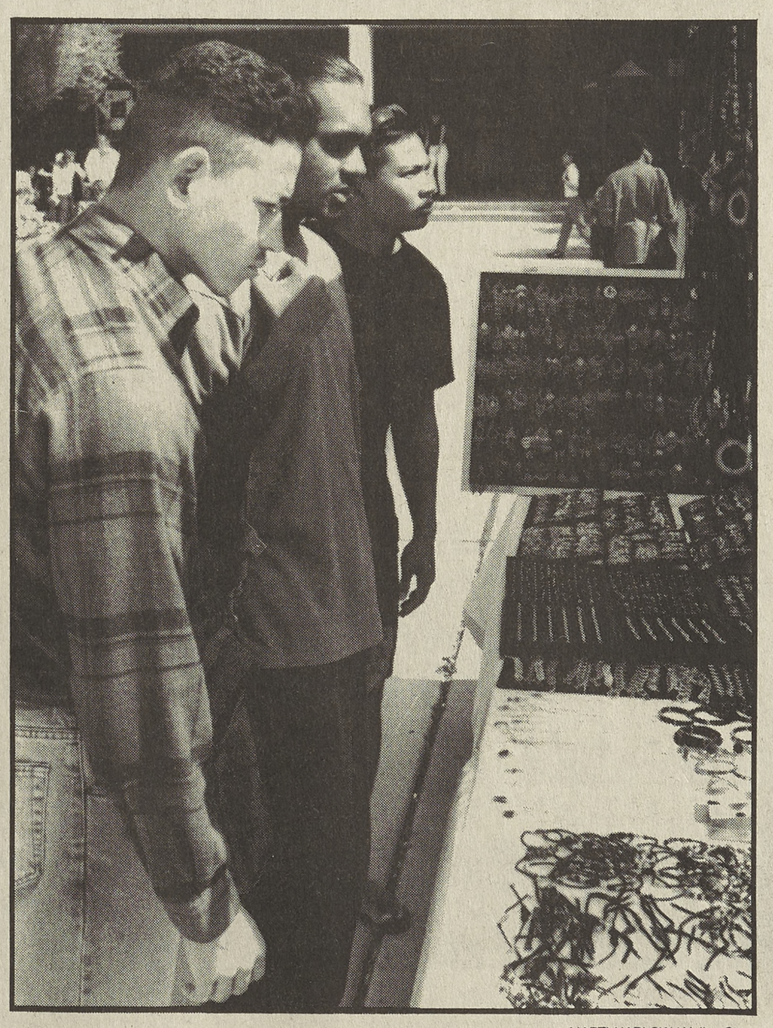
Although volunteers are providing community service, there is still the opportunity to use the experience for college credit.

"Global Volunteers offers undergraduates a rare opportunity to experience life in Third World communities and to acquaint themselves first hand with issues of community and economic development," says Cynthia Cone, the director of the Leadership, Education, and Development program (LEAD) at Hamline University.

Global Volunteers is fast becoming an alternative to vacations and even Spring Break for some college students and it's even tax deductible vacation available.

With approximately 50 teams in existence, Global Volunteers will soon be offering the chance of a lifetime (and maybe course credits) to LAVC.

Anyone interested should contact Krista Twesme, College Program Coordinator of Global Volunteers, at 1-800-487-1074.



MARTI HARLOW / Valley Star

Sergio Posada and Vikil Narayan shop in Monarch Square.

Vendors bargin wares

By MARK ENGLERT
Staff Writer

The tables are set. The products are lifted out of their boxes and put on display. As the day wears on, vendors barter and haggle with customers in hopes of making the best deals for a reasonable profit.

Les Toth, a student clad in black pants and a Harley tee-shirt, sits in a wheelchair and is excited by his new find, a centerfold-type picture that will grace his bedroom wall. Toth is one of many students who pass by Monarch Hall. Students check through the collection of necklaces, hats, incense, bracelets, framed pictures and jewelry on display.

The flea market style atmosphere that prevails around these vendors is only part of the picture. There is a sense of comraderie between them. This makes the hours that sometimes drag on go quicker.

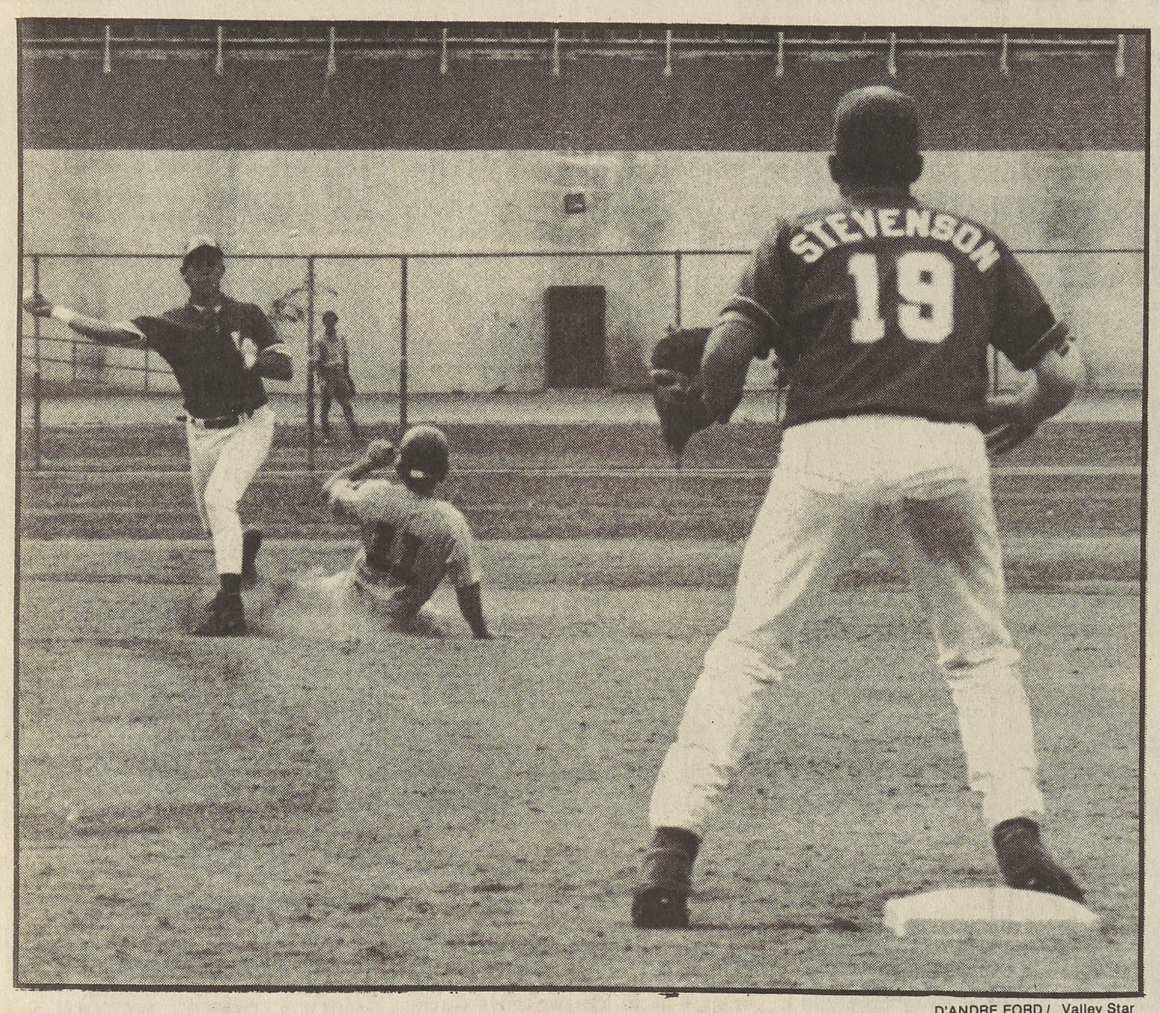
Vendor Kelly Brett is a young man with sandy blond hair who smokes Best Buy cigarettes and speaks with a southern drawl. He found making and selling his jewelry is more gratifying than working as an electrician. "Making my own stuff goes a little further in my own paycheck," says Brett. "I believe in what I'm doing."

Brett, like many vendors, comes to LAVC at 9 a.m. and leaves by 5 p.m. Displaying his merchandise on a fold-out table covered by a white table cloth, Brett gets a few prospective customers that end up buying a piece of jewelry.

Not all people operate vending booths on their own. David Yariv has been selling framed pictures at swap meets and other colleges with a friend. Most of the time they branch out to set up shop. This is to eleviate competition. "If two vendors of the same thing work in the same place, it's very bad for business. You don't get the price that you need," Yariv says. "Here you need to bring the price down to what students can afford."

While affordability is a concern, rental is reasonable with the bookstore taking in only 15 percent of the profits. Compared to other campuses and flea markets, this is a bargain. The rent, in turn, goes into the bank account of the bookstore. However, the bookstore isn't the only one to benefit from the vendors.

Barbara Taylor, who is in charge of rentals says, "It gives students a chance to buy a little something out in front when they don't have time to go in the store. What they sell are things that we don't carry here." The vendors are even thought of as an extension of the bookstore. Because of the lack of space in the store, this makes for a comfortable arrangement in which the bookstore and vendor both profit.



D'ANDRE FORD / Valley Star

Infielder Mark David forced out Brandon Hedding of Santa Monica College Saturday, also throwing the runner out. First Baseman David Stevenson completed the play.

Double play in effect

By ANDREW SAMUELSON
Staff Writer

As the sun sets, smoke could be seen on the Los Angeles Valley College horizon, emanating from the bats of the College of the Canyons players who had blistered Monarch pitching for three home runs and 18 hits on their way to a 17-9 thrashing of Valley in the opening game of a three game Monarch homestand.

They came backto the scene of Thursday's butchering to defeat Bakersfield 4-3 behind the pitching of Colin Bode and Willie Rivera.

Colin Bode was called on Friday to start the game against Bakersfield after Thursday's game had left the pitching staff in shambles.

Bode gave up just one earned run in six innings of work, leaving the Monarchs with a 2-2 score and handing the ball to ace reliever, Willie Rivera.

In the bottom of the seventh inning, the Monarchs looked ready to break the game wide open when they caught it on one bounce, threw it to home plate and forced out Anthony Paschia who was being held up by third base coach, Fred Purdith.

The next batter flew out to the right fielder who threw out Jason Stanley, who was sent in to score.

In the top of the eighth, Bakersfield's Bill Rutherford scored on a sacrifice by Gerardo Gonzales to give them a 3-2 advantage.

David Stevenson began the rally for LAVC in the bottom of the eighth inning with a single. He stole second on a missed hit and run play by kicking the ball out of Andy Beeerbower's glove that sent it into center field.

With Beerbower glancing on, Stevenson ran for third and pushed the unsuspecting Bakersfield shortstop out of the way. The umpire called interference on Beerbower for standing in the base path and awarded Stevenson third base. Stevenson then scored on a passed ball to tie the game.

Ozzie Areu lined the next pitch into left field, went to second base on an error and was advanced to third on a sacrifice. With one out, Bakersfield intentionally walked Carlos Olmos to create an opportunity for a double play to get them out of the inning with the score tied.

But their intentions were nullified on Mark Rodriguez's next pick off move when he was called for a balk and Areu scored to give them the lead.

Willie Rivera retired Bakersfield in the top of the ninth inning to preserve the win for the Monarchs

"I felt pretty good about today's game," Johnson said. "Once we got Willie in there, I felt very confident."

On Saturday, the entire team was revelling from Friday's win as they took apart Santa Monica, 10-4.

On Tuesday, LAVC lost to Glendale, 13-12 when the Vacqueros scored two runs in the bottom of the ninth.

Valley plays at home today against Oxnard who they defeated 10-6 already this year.

Swimmers proud in face of defeat

By LUCY THOMAS
Staff Writer

You couldn't tell by their attitude, that the Los Angeles Valley College men's swim team had just lost a meet to Cuesta 79 to 33.

"Well we tried but they were a little faster than us. But we sure showed them in the 400, didn't we"?. Rob it's a wonder you can still move, you were terrific."

These were some of the comments we heard as the LAVC team members boarded the bus for the trip home to Los Angeles.

Bill Krauss LAVC coach said, "We didn't expect to win going into this meet but we knew we would take some events and we did. Our swimmers were tired. Some of our men were recovering from the flu but they put in a great effort." The LAVC men's team took the 400 freestyle relay in 3:24.5 (Wonmeen Jun, Ryan Barry, Chris Imhof and Robert Brown).

Jun also won the 100 freestyle (50.6).

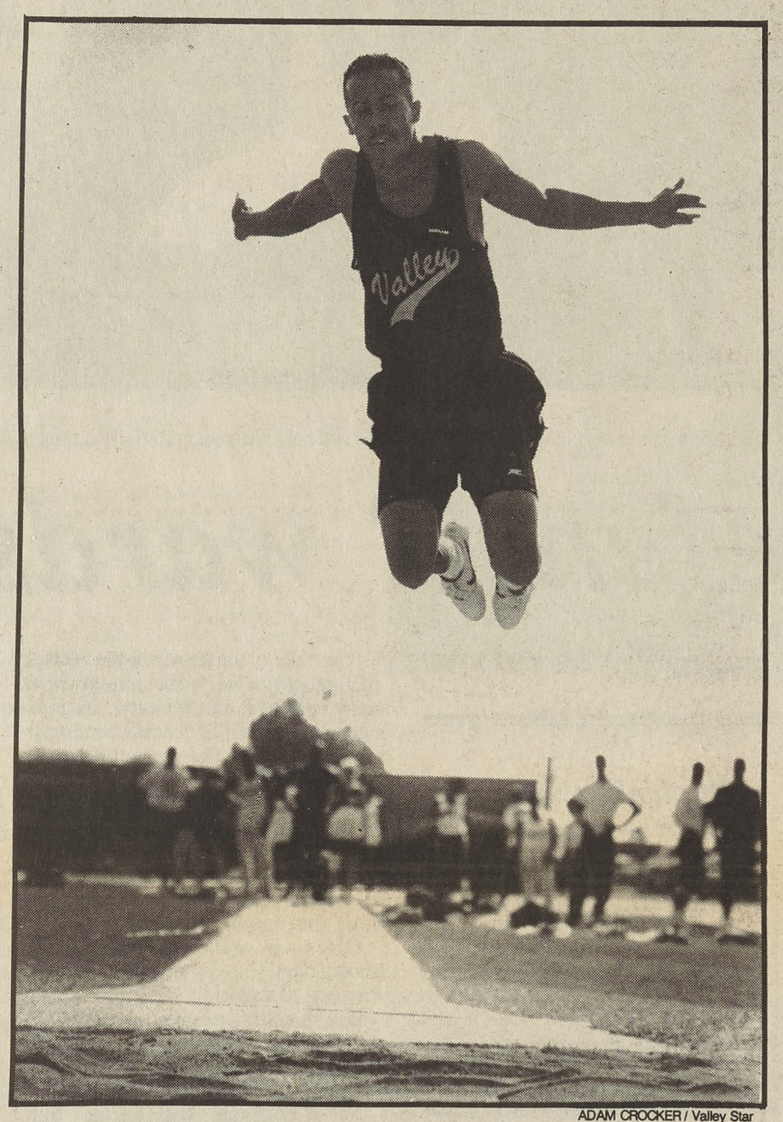
Krauss said, "our men's relay team should qualify for the Western Conference state meet." LAVC mens record is now three wins and two losses.

LAVC divers Scott Swinford and Jesse Ellis took second and third place in both the one meter and three meter events.

The Cuesta women were fast and took most of the events winning 79 to 23. However LAVC's Lacy Weaver took the 100 butterfly (1:09.8) and Luzmila Ocon won the 100 freestyle (1:01.4:: Krauss said, "Our women will make some good swims in the Western States Conference championships."

LAVC will meet Pasadena College on Wednesday March 24, at 2:30 p.m.

Track and Field fight losing battle



ADAM CROCKER / Valley Star

Kyle Beck's 23'4" long jump earned him first place in the long jump last Friday at Bakersfield. Monarch track travels to San Luis Obisbo this weekend.

By NANCY VIGRAN
Editor-in-Chief

Although they won three of four team relay events last Friday, the Monarch track team fell to defeat by both opponents, Moorpark and Bakersfield.

The Monarch Men's 4 x 100m relay team (Kyle Beck, Kevin Maxie, Ruben Bonitas and Reginald Welch, Jr.) ran the best time of their season at 41.6 seconds.

LAVC men also won the 4 x 400m (Bonitas, Maxie, Beck and Keno Alvarez) in 3:17.8.

The Lady Monarchs won the 4 x 100m in 49.4 (Nicole Rucker, Monique Baxter, LaTara Hudson and Charisse Phillips).

Sprinter Nicole Rucker once again left others in the dust winning the 100m in 12.6 and the 200m in 26.2.

Undefeated Jennifer Stewart threw the javelin 113'10" to a win and out-jumped opponents to 5'2" in the high jump.

Kyle Beck won the long jump at 23'4"

Both Bakersfield and Moorpark have larger depth teams than LAVC, according the Coach Dave Buchanan. These two teams are noted for being the top teams rivaling for the Western States Conference title.

The Monarchs lack participants in some events, such as pole vaulters and discus throwers and have limited depth in others, he said. Therefore, overall team points are lacking accumulation in these areas.

The Monarchs will be traveling to Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo this weekend for a two-day meet.

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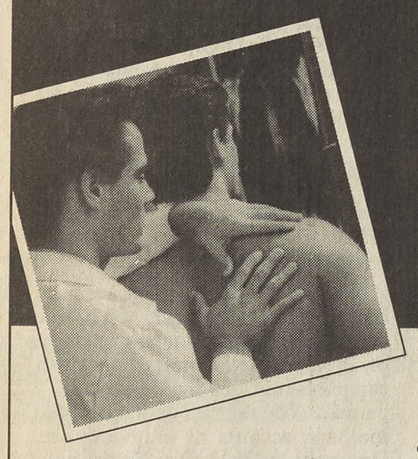

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